



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Joseph Peter Kerzman et al. Confirmation No.: 5974
Serial No.: 09/597,529 Examiner: Rossoshek, Yelena
Filed: June 20, 2000 Group Art Unit: 2825
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SELECTING AND ALIGNING CELLS
USING A PLACEMENT TOOL
Docket No.: RA 5273 (1028.1128101)

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 9th day of April, 2004.

By:

Charles A. Johnson

Dear Sir:

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanying the Notice of Allowance mailed on March 4, 2004 appears to be incomplete. The Examiner appears to merely recite the language of claim 1 in the reasons for allowance. However, Applicants would like to point out that many of the allowed independent (and dependent) claims recite different elements and/or different combination of elements.

For example, independent claim 7 recites the steps of: selecting one of the nets via a user input device; identifying selected leaf cells that are connected to the selected net; selecting the identified leaf cells; and setting a current context.

noted
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